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COUNTRY Rumania REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Timisoara

EVALUATION 25X1X6 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A6a

DATE OF CONTENT 2 to 10 April 1950

DATE OBTAINED 25X1A6a DATE PREPARED 16 May 1950

REFERENCES SO-40405x

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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25X1X6

The following information on Soviet troops in Timisoara (R 16/T 91) was obtained:

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1. A column of Soviet troops, coming from the direction of Lugoj (R 25/U 50), moved into Timisoara along Calea Lugojului. The troops took quarters in the former 5th Rifle Regt Barracks. The following weapons and motor vehicles were observed:

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- a. Two eight-wheel armored reconnaissance cars with pneumatic tires and the numbers [REDACTED]

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- b. Four trucks [REDACTED] occupied by soldiers and towing AA guns of about 80 mm caliber.

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- c. Three trucks [REDACTED] occupied by soldiers and towing light guns of about 20 mm caliber.

- d. Fourteen more trucks occupied by soldiers with some trucks towing guns.

- e. Fourteen sidecar motorcycles with mounted heavy machine guns.

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- f. Four tank trucks, including three with the numbers [REDACTED]

- g. And an unidentified number of trucks and passenger cars.

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2. a. Soviet troops arrived at the 2d City District (factory area) on [REDACTED]. They were observed near the Apollo motion picture theater, in the adjoining municipal garden (former Queen Maria Park) and as far as the power plant on the Bega River.

The following weapons and motor vehicles were observed:

(1) About 45 T34 tanks, some with the white numbers 414, 438, 441, 444, 447 and 454 painted on both sides.

(2) Seven 3-ton ZIS trucks with mounted AA guns of small caliber.

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(3) Three trucks, [REDACTED] towing AT guns of about 80 mm caliber.

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(4) Motor vehicle [REDACTED]

Relatively few soldiers guarded the tanks and motor vehicles. The quarters of the unit to which the materiel belonged could not be identified.

b. About 30 trucks, some loaded with equipment and ration supplies and some equipped as troop carriers, were parked in the municipal garden behind the Apollo motion picture theater. The following motor vehicle numbers were identified:

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Troops bivouacked beside the trucks.

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c. Seven more trucks with mounted AA guns of small caliber arrived in Timisoara on [REDACTED] and parked in the 2d City District behind the Catholic Millennium Church, about 300 meters east of the Apollo motion picture theater.

3. 5th Rifle Regt Barracks in Timisoara:

a. The barracks are in the northern section of the 1st City District (city center), with the main entrance at 2 Marasesti Square.

b. The three-story main building is about 60 meters long. A timber yard with remnants of the old fortress wall is west of the main building with the main gate to the barracks yard to the east. The gate was guarded by a Soviet sentry wearing black epaulets and armed with a submachine gun. Other

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barracks buildings, the so-called "winter quarters", are behind the large barracks yard, which is about 300 meters square and borders on Marasesti Square and Malenkov Street (formerly Churchill and Lenin Streets).

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c. The barracks yard was full of Soviet trucks on [REDACTED] AA guns were coupled to, or mounted on, many trucks. Two field kitchens were parked in the rear.

#### 4. Soviet Headquarters:

A Soviet headquarters with the designation Soviet Regional Headquarters was in the former Rumanian corps headquarters (later division headquarters) building on the southern perimeter of Piata Libertatii (Liberty Square) opposite the town hall in the city center. A double telephone line ran from the headquarters to the 5th Rifle Regt Barracks.

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Comment:

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All motorized troops, including tank and AAA units, who arrived in Timisoara between [REDACTED] had motor vehicles with numbers of the [REDACTED] block.

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Soviet rocket launcher units with motor vehicles having numbers of the same block moved into the Timisoara Rifle Barracks on [REDACTED] \* and were still there in early [REDACTED], according to the same source. The mentioned report, referring to the period from late [REDACTED] to mid-[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED], gave numerous data on other Soviet troops in and around Timisoara, who totaled about one division.

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It is not known whether the troops who recently arrived in Timisoara belonged to the mentioned unit which is assumed to be stationed in the Banat.

The observation of some of the troops bivouacking beside their tanks and motor vehicles indicates that the barracks were either occupied to capacity or that the troops stayed in Timisoara only temporarily. As all information was supplied by only one source, thus cutting out the possibility of comparison, the report is forwarded with reservation.

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